

### REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the courtesy of the interviews of June 30 and July 1, 2004. During this interview the fact that the claimed cast net structure incorporates an elastic wrist cuff was discussed. This fact will be discussed in greater detail herein below.

During the above set forth interviews an agreement was not reached as to the allowability of the amendment claims as set forth above. All of the claims remaining in the case cover a cast net having defined elements. The 35 USC 102 and 103 rejections as set forth in the Office Action are traversed.

As to the 35 USC 102 rejection as being anticipated by Ardern it is the applicants' position that this rejection is improper as Ardern fails to discuss an element which could be considered to be a flexible elastic cuff. In contrast Ardern only discusses the use of a binding knot to secure the throw line of his cast net to the thrower's hand. Ardern does not even hint of an elastic cuff in combination with a cast net.

Further as to the rejection under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Ardern in view of Knowles the Examiner is asked to consider whether these could ever be a valid patent if an Examiner could combine the components of various references to find an invention obvious. It is submitted that the Examiner can not make a valid rejection under 35 USC 103 by taking the fish glove of Knowles and putting parts of this fish glove into the cast net of Ardern.

It is submitted that the subject invention solved the problem of having a throw line binding on the wrist of a cast net thrower. The solving of this problem was an

advancement in the art and hence the claims remaining in the case as set forth above are allowable.

Again the Examiner is asked to consider that this invention relates to a cast net which has a flexible elastic cuff whereby the net is secured to the users wrist.

In accordance with the above set forth amendments it is felt that the claims remaining in the case are in condition for allowance. As to this allowance the Examiner is asked to note that the claims of this application relate to specific cast nets which have defined structure.

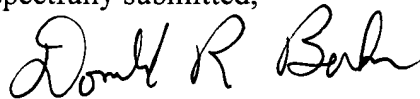
Further all claims relate to a cast net that has an elastic wrist band. It is submitted that cast net as claimed is shown in the prior art of record.

For this reason the applicant is of the opinion that the claims pending in the subject application are in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

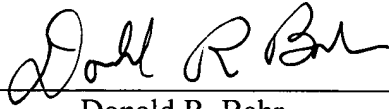
If the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone interview with the applicant's attorney would expedite the prosecution of the instant application, he is asked to call the applicant's attorney at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Donald R. Bahr". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Donald R. Bahr (Reg.) No. 21,011  
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I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail  
in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents,  
Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Donald R. Bahr", written above a horizontal line.

Donald R. Bahr

7/2/04

Date of Signature